

that input the planning team developed a preliminary preferred alternative, which was presented in Newsletter #6 in July 1997.

The Draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement was produced and distributed for public review in March 1998. Public meetings were held in April 1998 at St. Paul and Duluth, Minnesota, and Houghton and Ann Arbor, Michigan. Approximately 75–150 people attended each of the meetings. Additionally, nearly 600 responses were received by mail or on the Internet. The preferred alternative was subsequently revised and the Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement was distributed in November 1998.

Sixteen (16) letters commenting on the GMP/FEIS were received. There were few new ideas expressed in the letters; similar comments (with NPS responses) were incorporated into the GMP/FEIS. Concerns related to the following general topic areas were expressed: separation of uses (including concerns about non-motorized zones), concessions services at Rock Harbor (including concerns about affordability and accessibility of overnight accommodations), and dock removal and replacement. The National Park Service has heard these concerns, and responded to them in the "Summary of Public Comments" section of the GMP/FEIS.

Conclusion

A notice of availability for the Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Isle Royale National Park was published in the **Federal Register** on November 3, 1998, and the 30-day no-action period ended on December 3, 1998.

The above factors and considerations justify the selection of the final plan, as described in the "Proposed Action" section of the Final Environmental Impact Statement. The final general management plan is hereby approved.

Dated: May 21, 1999.

William W. Schenk,

Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, New Orleans, Louisiana; Notice of Availability of Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park

SUMMARY: This Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement describes and analyzes three alternatives proposed by the National Park Service for setting park management and direction for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park over the next 10 to 15 years. The format of the document will be as an abbreviated final environmental impact statement. **Alternative A** is the no-action, or status quo, alternative. This alternative would not allow the park to achieve its mission; however, it does provide a baseline for comparison with the other alternatives. **Alternative B** would emphasize conveying the park's interpretive story through such personal programs as interpreted performances, seminars, and performances. Educational activities would be given maximum emphasis in this alternative. It would allow the park to assist in the adaptive use of structures related to jazz. Interpretive programming would heavily depend on the involvement of local musicians and educators, thus supporting cultural preservation. Under this alternative, the visitor center would be located at the Old U.S. Mint. **Alternative C** would emphasize a strong partnership program between the National Park Service and other entities involved in preserving the New Orleans jazz tradition. In Alternative C, the National Park Service would provide funding for basic park operations and would work intensively with others to develop partnerships and alternative funding sources for interpretation, visitor use and experiences, and other activities focusing on preserving the jazz tradition. The extent and success of this alternative would depend on substantial support from partners, especially the private sector. Interpretation media would be extensively used, and the size and scope of park educational and preservation programs would be guided by the development of partnerships. Under this alternative, the visitor center would be located at a complex in Louis Armstrong Park. Alternative C is the National Park Service's **Proposed Action**.

Environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the alternatives are addressed in the

document. Impact topics include cultural and natural resources, interpretation and visitor use, socioeconomic environment, and National Park Service operations. Measures that would be taken to mitigate impacts are also described in the document.

Availability: The Final Environmental Impact Statement is being mailed to agencies, organizations, and individuals on the park's mailing list, and a limited number of copies will be available at park headquarters at the following address: Superintendent, New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, 365 Canal Street, Suite 2400, New Orleans, LA 70130, Telephone (504) 589-4806.

No sooner than 30 days from the appearance of this notice in the **Federal Register**, a Record of Decision will be signed that will document NPS approval of the general management plan for New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park, and identify the selected action from the alternatives presented in the FEIS.

Dated: May 28, 1999.

W. Thomas Brown,

Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Racial Desegregation of Public Education National Historic Landmark Theme Study

AGENCY: National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice of theme study.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that in October 1998, Congress authorized the National Park Service to prepare a National Historic Landmark (NHL) Theme Study on the history of racial desegregation in public education in the United States. The purpose of this study is to develop a historic context on the story of racial desegregation and to identify and prioritize potential National Historic Landmarks. This study will be presented to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior in October 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Sprinkle, National Register, History, and Education (2280), National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Room NC-400, Washington, DC 20240. Telephone (202) 343-8166.